

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. 4682

### 1. Name

Historic 1800-1844 North Durham Street  
and / common

### 2. Location

street & number 1800-1844 North Durham Street  
city, town Baltimore  
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

### 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name  
street & number telephone  
city, town state & zip code

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber  
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio  
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title  
date federal state county local  
depository for survey records  
city, town state & zip code

## 7. Description

Condition		Check One	Check One
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of twenty-four two-story, two-bay wide vernacular Renaissance Revival-style brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal cornices were built in 1897 by Adam Kaiser and Andrew Faulhaber, small-scale local builders of working class houses in East Baltimore. Many of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were originally painted a dark red, with the basement area painted white to imitate the marble basements of more expensive houses. The remainder have been formstoned. Of particular note are the northernmost two houses—1842-1844—which now serve as a church, with their first floor windows converted to windows with pointed arches—all within a formstone façade.

After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal became the predominant material used. By the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the most popular form of sheet metal cornice sported ball finials and often classical motifs like swags pressed into the frieze area. Generally, only main street two story houses had decorated friezes—the builder saved money on his small street versions by eliminating them. Likewise, while the main street houses in this style would have marble basements, stringers, lintels, and steps, builders used no marble at all on their small street versions, painting the basements white instead. Main street houses would have stained glass transoms over both the door and the wide first floor window; on the small streets builders offered stained glass only in the door transom.

The houses are two stories in height, 11'11" wide (two are 12' and two are 11'10") and occupy lots 55' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in running bond and have been painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near both the front and rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a continuous sheet metal cornice with a deep frieze area decorated with rosettes set beneath a row of dentils. Each sheet metal end bracket is decorated with grooves and bottom trefoils (in the style of earlier wooden brackets) but also has a rounded finial that projects above the cornice line with a stamped rosette decoration, which is repeated on the part of the bracket nearest the frieze.

The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels and scroll-sawn tympanums. The sills are wood. A number of the original sets of 2/2 sash survive as well as a few double-light doorway transoms. Doorways show a variety of replacement door types and some openings have been boarded over. The houses sit on fairly low basements lit by a double-light sash, set beneath a double-header segmental arch. Each front door is reached by three brick or concrete steps.

## 8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

**Specific dates** 1897

**Builder/Architect** Adam Kaiser and Andrew Faulhaber

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant as representing a transitional house style making use of the Renaissance Revival sheet metal cornice style seen on the very last type of small street houses to be built, in the period c. 1900– 1909, when a new city ordinance outlawed building houses on streets less than 40' wide, but still retaining the old-fashioned, late Italianate-style narrow first floor window. The houses were built by Adam Kaiser and Andrew Faulhaber, small-scale local builders, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of two-story house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200-\$1,500; small street houses for \$700-\$750.

In this particular case, Adam Miller built two-story, 14'-wide houses on the south side of North Avenue in 1890 and Henry and George Cook built similar 13'6"-wide houses on the east side of Ann Street and the north side of Lafayette in 1896. The Cooks then sold the small street lots to Kaiser and Fulhaber and gave them a mortgage to help with construction. They obtained the rest of their financing from the German Fire Insurance Co. and sold the houses to a mix of investors and owner-occupants. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*  
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

## 10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

city, town Baltimore

date June 2000

telephone

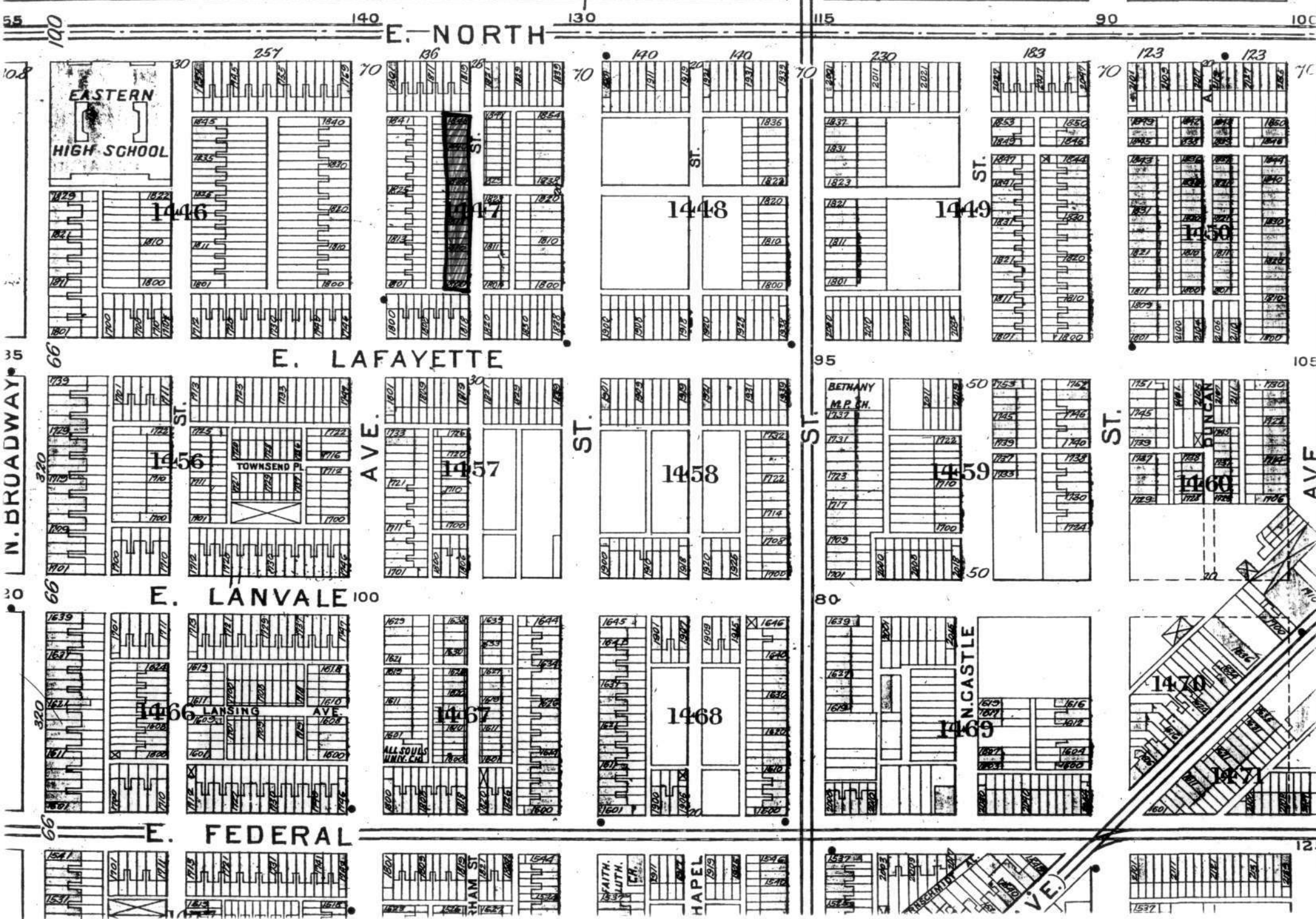
state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

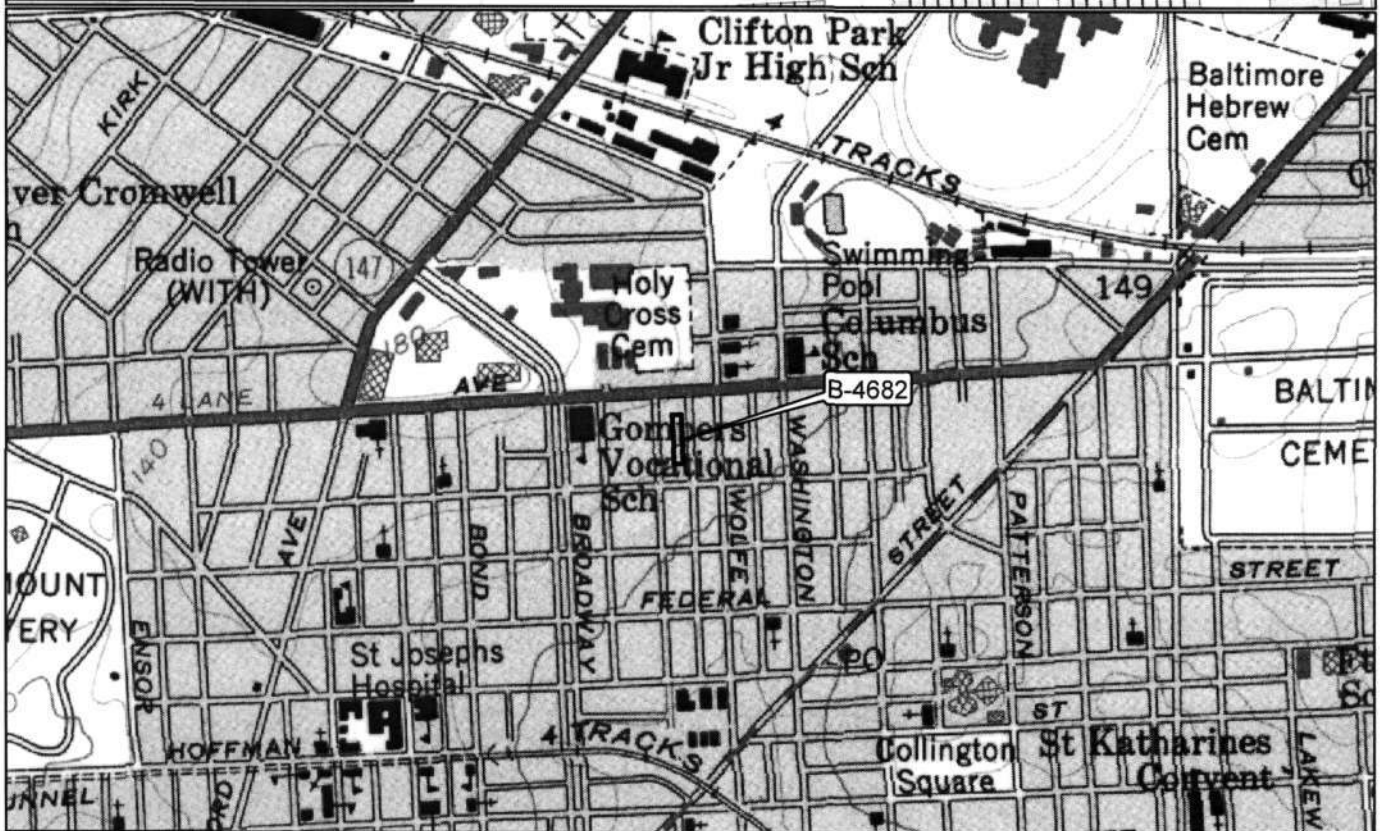
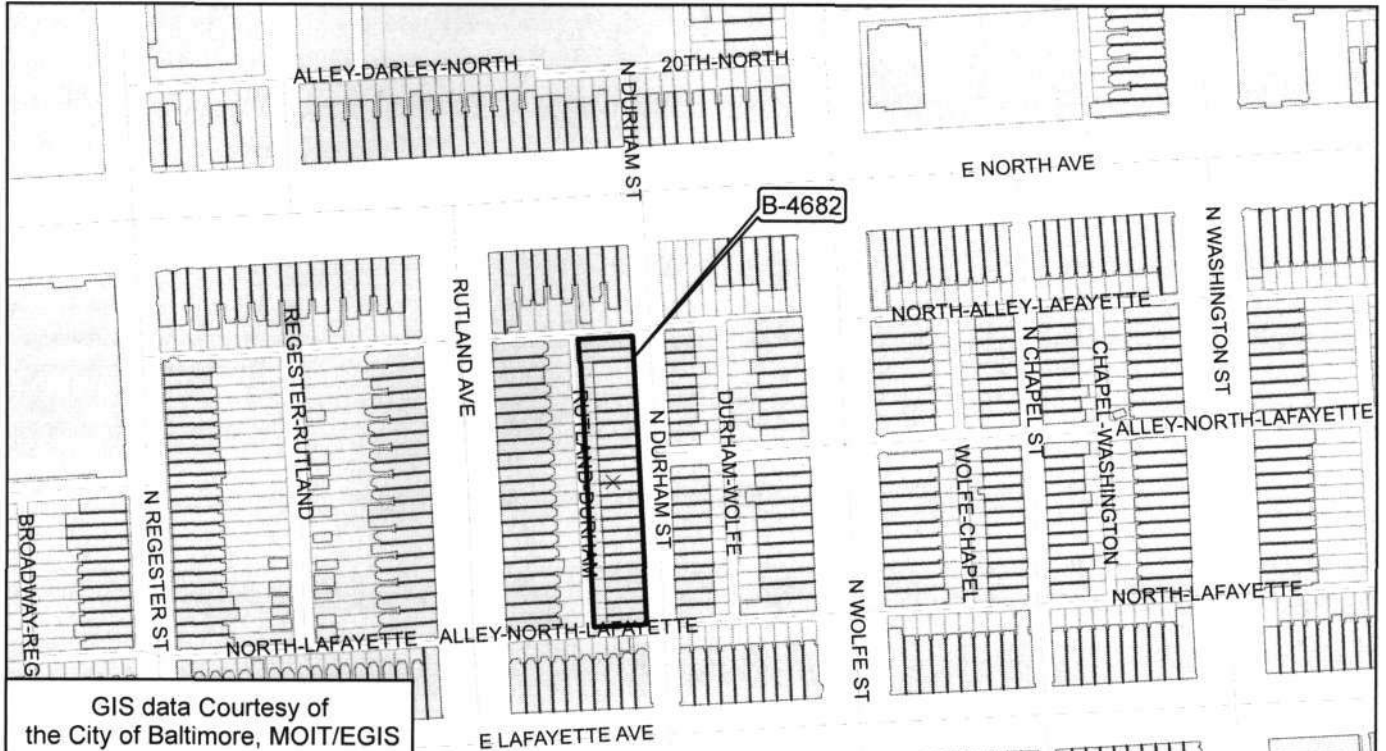
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:  
DHCP/DHCD  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032-2023





B-4682  
1800-1846 N. Durham Street  
Block 1447, Lots 082-104  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





1800 Durham W5  
W5

B-4682 1800-1844 N. Durham St.

BALTO. MD

W. Nield

11/96

MD SAPD

~~1/4~~

1/4

180

1010028 0211 844 3.2





(37)  
1826 Durham  
W5

B-4682  
(37)  
1826 N. Durham St.  
Balt. MD.  
W. Wield  
11/96  
2/24

ENCLOSURE 0211 2 2 2 2 2



1800 Durham Ws 1800-1844

S3

B-4682

1800-1844 N. Durham St.

BALTO. MD

S. Allan

8/97

MD SHPD

~~#2~~  
3/4

180

[10]030 0211 H H H 22





1808 Durham

53

B-4682

1808 Durham St.

BALTO. MD

S. Allan

8/97

~~8/97~~

4/4

END

E11030 0211 N4N22